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Introduced by  
Representatives Anderson, Kirkpatrick, Mason: Ableser, Adams, Barnes,  
Clark, Crandall, DeSimone, Kavanagh, Murphy, Nichols, Pearce, Stump,  
Yarbrough, Senators Garcia, Huppenthal, Johnson

### A CONCURRENT MEMORIAL

URGING THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO ADOPT NEW REGULATIONS OR THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT LEGISLATION REQUIRING THE NATION'S CABLE AND SATELLITE TELEVISION COMPANIES TO OFFER A LA CARTE SERVICE FOR SPECIALTY CHANNELS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 To the Federal Communications Commission and the Congress of the United  
2 States of America:

3 Your memorialist respectfully represents:

4 Whereas, cable and satellite television subscribers always receive a  
5 broadcast tier of channels, including local, commercial and public television  
6 channels; and

7 Whereas, beyond this basic or broadcast package, as it is often  
8 marketed, there are dozens of specialty channels available to cable and  
9 satellite television subscribers that focus on news, sports, the arts and  
10 many other specialized areas of entertainment and information; and

11 Whereas, certain of these specialized channels, such as CNN, MSNBC, Fox  
12 News and ESPN, are among the most watched national cable and satellite  
13 television services; and

14 Whereas, although the technology now exists to enable cable and  
15 satellite television companies to customize a subscriber's reception menu to  
16 receive only specific channels beyond the basic tier of broadcast and public  
17 access stations (a la carte service), this is not a current option for  
18 consumers; and

19 Whereas, if, for example, ESPN is the only channel in the basic package  
20 that a sports fan wishes to receive, the viewer has no option but to pay for  
21 an entire set of channels, nearly all of which are never watched; and

22 Whereas, cable and satellite fees are rising at an accelerated pace,  
23 and the introduction of an a la carte option would lower consumers' costs;  
24 and

25 Whereas, although cable and satellite television companies have long  
26 complained bitterly about the existing Federal Communications Commission's  
27 regulations requiring them to carry local broadcast channels and the proposed  
28 regulations that would similarly require them to carry new digital channels,  
29 they have no difficulty imposing a comparable requirement on their own  
30 customers; and

31 Whereas, U.S. Senator John McCain of Arizona, Chairman of the Senate  
32 Committee of Commerce, Science and Transportation, has urged the cable and  
33 satellite television industry to be consistent in its message and to provide  
34 choices for its customers if it is demanding those choices for itself; and

35 Whereas, Arizona's cable and satellite television consumers are paying  
36 excessively high prices for many channels that they have no interest in  
37 receiving in order to subscribe to one or two channels.

38 Wherefore your memorialist, the House of Representatives of the State of  
39 Arizona, the Senate concurring, prays:

40 1. That the Federal Communications Commission adopt new regulations  
41 requiring the implementation of an a la carte option by the nation's cable  
42 and satellite television companies.

43 2. In the alternative, that the Congress of the United States enact  
44 legislation requiring the implementation of an a la carte option by the  
45 nation's cable and satellite television companies.

1           3. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies  
2 of this Memorial to the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission,  
3 the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of  
4 the United States Senate and each Member of Congress from the State of  
5 Arizona.